

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Final Office Action of February 8, 2006. In response to the Examiner's objection to the drawings, Applicant has canceled claims 12 and 20. In addition, claims 14 and 21 have been amended to replace commas at the end of each claim element with semicolons. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection made in the outstanding office action, and requests the issuance of a timely notice of allowance in view of the remarks that follow.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Nelson (USPN 6,347,027). Nelson discloses a method and apparatus for controlling an electric power distribution system including the use and coordination of information conveyed over communications to dynamically modify the protection characteristics of distribution devices. A disclosed embodiment of Nelson's invention includes a "Protective Device Add-On Board." Col. 30, Line 30 – Col. 31, Line 38 (disclosing a "recloser" version of the protective device add-on board, henceforth referred to as the "recloser control apparatus"). However, the disclosed recloser control apparatus communicates with the coupled recloser via a digital communications protocol. Col. 30, Lines 38-57 ("The third channel, 1103 is used to communicate with the recloser."). The recloser control apparatus also communicates with the "IntelliTeam Switch Control" of FIG. 2 of the Nelson patent via different digital communications channels. Col. 30, Lines 50-56. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that although the Office Action points to the power supply 222 of Figure 2, as well as column 6, lines 37-43, 58-67 & column 7, lines 1-3, there is no disclosure of "a convertible charging system adaptable for producing control voltages for controlling trip and close apparatuses of various reclosers," as required by the language of claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that as every element of claim 1 is not disclosed by Nelson, an anticipation rejection is improper. Further, as claims 2-11 and 13 are dependent on claim 1, if Examiner should find claim 1 allowable, claims 2-11 and 13 should be allowed as well.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 14-19 and 21-26 should be allowed for the same reason as claims 1-11 and 13. In addition, as no obviousness rejection was made of any of the

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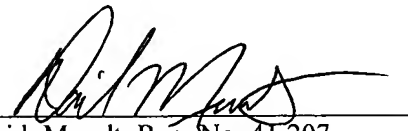
independent claims, the obviousness rejection of claims 4, 12, 15-16, 20, 22 and 25 is not addressed in this response.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that in view of the cancellation of claims 12 and 20 and the argument submitted, this application is now in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore requests issuance of a timely notice of allowance. However, should Examiner be of the opinion that further amendment or response is required; Applicant encourages Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below. Further, although no additional fees are believed to be due at this time, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo, Cummings & Mehler, Ltd., Deposit Account No. 50-1039 with reference to attorney docket number (1444-0097).

Respectfully submitted,

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